

Bellechester City Council Meeting Minutes

October 20 @ 6:00 PM

Regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jody Gordon at 6:01 p.m.

Pledge to the flag.

Roll call was taken: The council in attendance: Mayor Jody Gordon, Council people, Rich Majerus, Kyle Blattner, Jered Buxengard, Mark Gerken, as well as Lisa Redepening treasure Kyle McKeown and City Engineer Matt Mohs. Nick Keller and Edith Buck were also present.

Minutes of September, 2021 meeting were reviewed and motion was made by Mark Gerken with a second by Kyle Blattner to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed and a motion by Mark Gerken with a second by Rich Majerus to approve and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Sewer Grant – update progress & survey results. Matt discussed the survey results and the next steps in this process. Our PER report is at the state for review. It may take a few months to hear back from them.

New business:

- Building Permit – Nick Keller – storage unit – Shipping container for storage for undetermined amount of time for garage items. Needs siding on it to conform to ordinance and residential area. Otherwise it needs to be a yard barn. Building permit was not approved as submitted.
- Fence Building Permit – Edith Buck presented an agreement with neighbor for fence. Shrubs also was discussed. Property line was found and determined that the shrubs were too close to line and discussion on the berm and water run was also discussed. Neighbor agreed to clean out and move items in question. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Kyle Blattner for the building permit that was discussed for fence. Motion carried.
- Old Bar Land Purchase Opportunity – discuss and decide. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Jered Buxengard to offer the county \$500 for this property and to have the interested party consult with the city prior to purchase. Motion carried.
- Polling Place Resolution – approve. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Kyle Blattner to approve the Polling Place Resolution as submitted. Motion carried.
- Private I & I – discussion. With the sewer project started, private infiltration issues need to be taken into consideration as we move forward. It was brought up that there has been some work on this and 2 properties were identified as not compliant, with the rest of the city being verified. A hard copy inventory may need to be done so we can reference in the future. A list will be compiled of properties with a form from Bolten Menk.
- Brush Pile procedures and penalties – discuss and approve. Ordinance will need to be drafted for unapproved items in brush pile.
- Building Permit - Mary Ellinghuysen – egress windows – awaiting info. Not present.
- Snow Plowing Procedures for billing. We will request that we receive our bill by 6/1.

- Ron Kahl – building permit for utility shed. Ron presented plans and drawings for requested shed. Motion was made by Jered Buxengard with a 2nd by Rich Majerus to approve the permit as submitted. Motion carried.

Engineering Report – See Above

Clerk Report – Camera System for recycle Bins – Are installed. If we wanted a 3rd camera to get a better view of the brush pile, it will be at a cost of \$300. Old Bar Land – I was contacted by Wabasha County Administrator regarding the City's interested in purchasing this land as another party is interested. Here is what I received from them: *The vacant value we have on the parcel is \$4,900. However, we recognize that this is a very narrow lot at 30 feet wide and would likely not be built on again as it sits. Making adjustments for those factors in our system we would value the lot at \$1,500 for a sale to the city.*

Recycle & Brush Pile Signage – Signs have been received. Census Bureau Count – there was some question on the vacant housing unit number, so I have contacted the Regional Office in Chicago to try to get clarification on this. Survey – our results have been forwarded on to get verification to move forward. Our results has been the highest that Chelsea @ Bolten Menk has seen. Emergency Radio Funding Support – I did receive the resolution and forwarded onto the Goodhue County. Quarterly Tax Filings done – Federal & state withholding; sales tax and MN unemployment tax paid.

Treasurer Report – Utility past due list was distributed and reviewed. Some residents have made payment plans.

Water/Wastewater/Facility Report – Discharging now in October, flushing in November.

Mayor Concerns – Lions will be doing holiday light parade at 5:00 on December 11th with a refreshment at the Legion following.

Council Concerns – Information on 2 signs was distributed. Mower needs to be worked on. Privacy fence concerns was discussed. Culvert movement was also discussed.

Adjourn

Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a second by Jered Buxengard to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm. Next meeting is November 17th @ 6:00 p.m. at the Bellechester Community Center.

Submitted by Lisa Redepenning – City Clerk

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- **Reminder - No motor vehicle shall be left parked on any street(s) or public way in the City, from Nov. 1 thru April 1 the hours of 2am until 6am.**
 - **Yard Cleanup** – Please take the time to clean up anything stored on your property. Please be mindful that other people may not enjoy your lawn storage – please help to make our city tidy.

- **Fee Change for Utility Bills** – Shut off fee was eliminated with a single reconnect fee of \$100, a 10% interest fee after 90 days and returned check fee of \$25.
- **Brush Pile** – Please remember that burn pile is for brush and leaves only. We can get fined for all other items left here. The burn pile is for Bellechester City residents only. If you witness any dumping of unauthorized items or non city resident use, please call us.
- **Recycling** - Please recycle whenever you can. There is a recycling bin located on the north end of town by GB Feed and Supply. By recycling, this will keep our garbage rates from rising.
- **Power Outages** – If you have power outage in your home, please check Xcel's website for an update on current outages and contact them directly as they provide the power for Bellechester.